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RON CURRY SECRETARY

Derrith Watchman-Moore

Deputy Secretary

August 15, 2005 For Immediate Release Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Comm. Director

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Environment Department to Show Albuquerque Area Businesses How to Reduce Pollution and Improve Bottom Line

(Santa Fe, NM) - New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Secretary Ron Curry and Deputy Secretary Derrith Watchman-Moore will partner with Albuquerque area Chambers of Commerce to host three Pollution Prevention presentations for local small businesses this week.

The presentations will be held on the following dates in the following cities:

Albuquerque on Wednesday, August 17th from 2 to 4 pm at the Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, 1115 Gold Avenue, 2nd Floor

Rio Rancho on Thursday August 18th from 9 to 11 am at City Hall, 3900 Southern Blvd.

Belen on Thursday August $18^{\rm th}$ from 2 to 4 pm at the Belen Recreation Center, 715 South Main, Meeting Room B

This presentation will showcase how small businesses can benefit economically and environmentally from waste reduction and pollution prevention practices. The event is open and free to the public.

"Any type of waste is a drag on profits," said Secretary Curry. "I hope that businesses will be able to join us for this free pollution prevention seminar to learn how to protect the environment and improve their bottom line."

NMED is committed to assisting small businesses through its Pollution Prevention (P2) Program. The P2 Program is designed to serve New Mexico businesses, local governments and state agencies to help in the reduction and elimination of pollution and waste at the source. The P2 Program also offers workshops and free site assessments. For more information on the program please see: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/P2_Web

Businesses with further questions may contact Michelle Vattano with the NMED P2 Program at (505) 827-0677 or **michelle.Vattano@state.nm.us**. For press inquiries please contact Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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